

Changes in *Genitourinary Medicine*

Genitourinary Medicine has a new appearance. The most obvious change is that the contents now appear on the front cover instead of the rear. In addition, the layout of the front cover has been altered to give a more modern appearance. There are also a number of minor changes inside. The typescript and size of headings has been altered; however the basic design remains unchanged. The number of pages will be increased slightly and it is hoped to switch from Crown Quarto to A4 size in time.

Several other changes have occurred in the journal in the last nine months. These include more regular editorials and review articles, more articles on behavioural, epidemiological, social and historical aspects of the sexually transmitted diseases, arranging articles in order of importance rather than by subject, and ceasing to abstract articles from other journals, whilst continuing to offer a bibliography of papers published elsewhere. We have also speeded up the time for both reviewing and publishing manuscripts so most authors now receive a decision within six to eight weeks, and the majority are published within four months of acceptance. Papers of particular interest are published even more rapidly. We remain committed to publishing high quality original papers related to every aspect of the speciality.

One new heading we have recently added is "*Matters arising*". In this section, we publish letters to the editor concerning previously published papers and, where appropriate, ask the original authors to respond. "*Letters to the Editor*" now includes all other correspondence. In keeping with many other biomedical journals we are encouraging authors to submit papers with "structured" abstracts where the objectives, methodology, results and conclusions are briefly summarised.

We hope these changes are all contributing to making the journal more attractive, readable and up to date.

Adrian Mindel